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US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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PM:GSVEST (SUBSTANCE)

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR MNUC KS

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTING OF SENSITIVE INFORMATION

FROM HABIB FOR AMBASSADOR

I AM APPALLED AT OBERDORFER STORY IN SEPTEMBER 20 WASHINGTON POST IN WHICH HE REPORTS HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH " SENIOR U.S. MILITARY COMMANDERS" ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND ROLE OF SECOND DIVISION IN EVENT OF HOSTILITIES. IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, YOU SHOULD DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH COMUSK AND ASSURE THAT HIS COMMAND IS AWARE OF HIGHLY DAMAGING EFFECT OF LOOSE TALK REGARDING NUCLEAR DEPLOYMENT. ACCEPTABLE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS BY PRESS AND OUTSIDERS ON THESE SUBJECTS ARE " NO COMMENT", OR " WE DO NOT DISCUSS NUCLEAR DEPLOYMENTS", OR " WE NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY ANY REPORTS ON NUCLEAR DEPLOYMENTS". KISSINGER

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